

pdtestimony@cga.ct.gov

Susan Carhart

184 New State Rd #23

Manchester, CT 06042

Legislative Hearing Friday March 11th at 11 AM

RE: Substitute SB 422 (An Act Concerning Residential Water Rates, Public Drinking Water Supply Emergencies and the Sellers of Bottled Water)

Dear Planning and Development Committee,

I support this bill and it's revisions. Water is a public resource we all own, not a commercial asset to be privatized for corporate profit.

The bill as raised in the committee required revision. Sen. Bye has sent in substitute language and we want to support this **substituted bill**. Points to consider:

- **Protect residents, not water bottlers during a drought.** If the DPH declares a Drought Advisory, the production of bottled water for export out of state needs to stop.
-
- **Rescind water rate discounts for water bottlers.** They extract large amounts of our municipal water and spring water, fill the environment with plastic pollution, and profit while citizens are conserving and paying more.
-
- **Rescind the *Special Sewer Service Charge* discount for water bottlers (now known as the *Clean Water Project Charge*).** CT ratepayers have paid for years to build infrastructure for clean water; no discounts for corporations.
-
- **Re-establish a citizen MDC (Metropolitan District Commission) watch dog committee.**
-
- **Impose a moratorium on any new large capacity agreements** until the State Water Plan is completed and addresses the issue of water bottling companies diverting water out of watersheds.

We are in dire need of legislation that will prohibit any company from coming into CT and purchasing water for less than the taxpayers pay AND to prohibit town councils from dealing individually with companies whose business impacts the state's water supply without oversight and agreement of all impacted by such agreements.

Through your legislation, please make what has happened in the town of Bloomfield never happen again.

Sincerely,

Sue Carhart